



News and Events in the 5th Grade

April 30, 2012

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Important Dates

May 2	Brooks Middle School Orientation 7:00-8:30pm.
May 9	Field Trip to Robert Crown
May 10	IAAT test
May 10	Body System Paper Due
May 14	Transition Picnic at Taylor Park
May 16 & 23	MAP Testing
May 17	Social Studies Interview Project Due
May 24	Body System Project Due
May 30	Pool Outing

Dear Families,

Message from Brooks

The 6th Grade Orientation has been rescheduled to Wednesday, May 2, from 7-8:30 p.m. PARENTS ONLY

District 97, with input from certified staff at both middle schools, has begun a process that will result in fostering world-class middle schools. This district's vision of our preferred future will result in changes for both our academic and elective programs to develop best practices about educating students. The results of this process will effect the information we share with families at our 6th Grade Orientation.

Art - Thank you to all the parents who helped make 5th grade lock-in mural a success! The doors came out great and will be a permanent artwork in the Media Center. See <http://www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com/> for pictures.

Music - On Thursday and Friday this week we are doing recorder assessments. These are an important part of their grade so it is necessary that they have their recorders for class at the end of the week. Make up times will only be given for students who are absent on that day from music.

Spanish - In Spanish we are working on ordering food in a restaurant. Students are working in groups to create a skit that includes waiter/waitresses, managers, and diners. We will start performing the role playing this week.

Library - Information can be found on the Holmes Library page on our school website, <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>.

Physical Education - Please see Mr. Williams' link (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) for information.



Reading/Literature TREASURES

This week we will read two texts about how one person's hard work can impact (and improve) the lives of others. The comprehension focus for this story is identifying the use of techniques of persuasion.

LITERATURE CIRCLES

Students will have some time during workshop this week to read their assigned pages and complete their quality questions/role sheets. If students are unable to complete these in class, they may need to finish it at home. The next Literature Circle discussion is on Wednesday, May 2nd.

Language Arts

Writing Focus: Last week students began collecting images that reflect their poems. This week, students will begin to create a Microsoft Photo Story video with those images. Final drafts of the "Where I'm From" poems, as well as the Photo Story videos are due this coming **Friday, May 4th**.

Grammar Focus: The grammar skill for this week is negatives (no, none, never, nothing, nobody, no one, nowhere) and positives (any, ever, anything, anybody, anyone, anywhere).

Math

Students should finish up the Unit 8 test today and graded unit tests will be returned to your child by early next week. This week, we begin our unit on algebra. We will start by using pan-balances to model algebraic equations. We will have a short quiz on Friday.

On Thursday, May 10, 5th grade students will be taking the Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test (IAAT). Brooks will use the results of this test, along with several other factors, to help determine math placement for next year. A letter with more details about the IAAT went home with students today.

Science

On May 15, we will be dissecting sheep eyeballs. If you would like to help out with that dissection, please let Ms. Manuel know. Class times are 5K: 10:45 - 11:25, 5P: 1:30 - 2:10 and 5M: 2:10 - 2:50. This week, we continue learning about body systems and we will be focusing on the nervous system.

Students have chosen a body system to study for the Human Body project. Students will conduct research, write a brief research paper and create a glog. Project requirements are posted on the Science page of the 5th grade wiki. Although students will have some in-class time to work on the projects, they will be required to complete the majority of the project at home. The research paper is due May 10.

Next week, we will spend a few days learning about puberty and the reproductive system. We will cover both the male and female reproductive systems. On Wednesday, May 9, we will take a field trip to the Robert Crown Center to learn about changes that happen to the body during puberty. A field trip permission slip went home today. Also, a parent letter discussing the lessons went home yesterday. Both the parent letter and the permission slip are posted on the 5th grade wiki.

Social Studies

This week, we will learn about the Alamo, women's suffrage, and wagon trains. The interview project is due Thursday, May 17. Please plan ahead, as this project will require identifying an interview subject and then conducting the interview. Students may videotape the interview, but it is not required. The directions and a rubric are on the social studies section of the Wiki if your child has lost his or her sheet.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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